

TECHNICAL STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

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APPROVALS:

Author ISSI Consulting Group, Inc. June 10, 1999
Original Date

SYNOPSIS: A standardized method for sample identification and tracking for the Phase III Surface Soil Investigation is provided.

Received by QA Unit:

REVIEWS:

<u>TEAM MEMBER</u>	<u>SIGNATURE/TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
<u>EPA Region 8</u>	<u></u>	<u>9/16/99</u>
<u>ISSI Consulting Group, Inc.</u>	<u>Mary Goldade/FQAC</u>	<u>9/16/99</u>

Revision Date	Reason for Revision
July 30, 1999	Included another sample identifier for archived bulk fraction soils.
Sept. 16, 1999	Included another sample identifier for archived raw soils.

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SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION AND TRACKING PROCEDURES

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) is to provide a standardized method for uniquely identifying and tracking samples collected during the Phase III Surface Soil Investigation at the VBI70 site. This SOP is to be used by employees of USEPA Region 8 contractors/subcontractors supporting USEPA Region 8 projects and tasks. This SOP describes both the nomenclature which will be used to identify samples and outlines the measures by which samples will be tracked throughout the collection process. Site-specific deviations from the procedures outlined in this document must be approved by the USEPA Region 8 Remedial Project Manager or the Regional Toxicologist prior to initiation of the sampling activity.

2.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

Successful execution of the Project Plan requires a clear hierarchy of assigned roles with different sets of responsibilities associated with each role.

The Field Project Leader (FPL) may be an USEPA employee or contractor who is responsible for overseeing the sampling activities. The FPL is also responsible for checking all work performed and verifying that the work satisfies the specific tasks outlined by this SOP and the Project Plan. It is the responsibility of the FPL to communicate with the Field Personnel specific collection objectives and anticipate situations that require any deviation from the Project Plan. It is also the responsibility of the FPL to communicate the need for any deviations from the Project Plan with the appropriate USEPA Region 8 personnel (Remedial Project Manager or Regional Toxicologist).

Field personnel performing sampling are responsible for adhering to the guidelines established within this SOP.

3.0 SAMPLE NOMENCLATURE

All samples collected during this study will be assigned a unique label ("tag number").

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Each sample label will consist of three elements, as follows:

PHASE. All labels will begin with the number "3" to indicate that the sample is derived from Phase III of the study.

NUMBER. Each label will include a unique identification number. This number will be a 5-digit sequential number starting with "00001" and progressively increasing until the final sample has been collected or tag number "99999" has been reached.

SAMPLE PREPARATION. Samples will be categorized based upon the sample preparation performed. Categories include, but are not limited to:

- R Raw sample. Original sample collected during Phase III that is unprocessed.
- RA Archived raw soil. This sample has been homogenized and then archived for future use.
- A Archived bulk fraction. This sample is prepared by sieving the raw sample and then archiving for future use. This sample is not subjected to heating.
- B Bulk fraction. This sample has been prepared by sieving the sample to < 2 mm and then heating above environmental temperatures (> 50 °C).
- F Fine fraction. This sample has been dried at environmental temperatures (< 50 °C) and then sieved to < 250 µm.

Thus, "3-00001-R" and "3-12846-F" represent possible sample numbers collected during Phase III.

Note: The sample preparation nomenclature may be expanded as needed in the future providing they are approved by the Project Database Manager or designate.

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4.0 SAMPLE TRACKING

Prior to sample collection, each team will be given blank copies of media-specific data sheets and a set of pre-printed sample identification numbers on self-adhesive labels. There will be two labels for each sample number. The set of labels that are checked out by a team will be documented by the FPL or designate prior to sampling each day using the VBI70 Surface Soil Labels-Master Sheet (Attachment 1).

When a sample of site medium is collected (e.g., yard soil, indoor dust, alleyway soil), a self-adhesive label will be transferred from the pre-printed sheet to the sample container. At the same time (before collection of any other sample), the second copy of the sample number will be transferred to the appropriate location on the data sheet. The sample data sheet will be filled out at the time of sample collection by the sample collection team. This sheet will contain all relevant information necessary to properly identify the sample. An example data sheet is provided in Attachment 2. All data sheets will be maintained in three-ring binder logbooks. Each sampling team will have a separate logbook.

Because the sample identification number is not a self-reading or immediately decipherable, it is critical that the supporting sample data sheet be filled out legibly, accurately and completely. Notes should be as descriptive and as inclusive as possible such that a person reading the entries, who is independent of the sampling effort, should be able to reconstruct the sampling situation from the recorded information. Language should be objective, factual, and free of personal feelings and inappropriate terminology. Data sheets must be signed by the person recording the information. Any errors or mistakes in field recording must be initialed and dated by the recorder, along with a note explaining the change.

If self-adhesive labels are destroyed and/or voided during sampling activities, this information should be immediately documented in the general logbook for the field team.

5.0 DAILY CLOSE-OUT

Upon completion of daily sampling activities, the sampling team will return to the field office location with samples and corresponding data sheets and any unused labels. It is mandatory that each sample be submitted with its corresponding data sheet. The Field Project Leader or designated sample custodian will verify that the identification numbers on each sample correspond to the data sheet, and that each data sheet is legible and filled out in its entirety. Each data sheet will be copied and the originals will be transferred from the team logbook into a three-ring binder master logbook organized by sample identification number. Once inserted into the master logbook, each data sheet will be

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numbered sequentially in the space provided in the lower right corner. Additionally, the sample custodian will maintain a log of the sample identification numbers which have been used, noting any missing or destroyed labels (see Attachment 1). The sample labels and numbers for each team must be rectified at the end of each day. After verification, the samples will be locked and stored according to media. The copies of the sample data sheets will be submitted to the Field Database Manager for entry into the Field Activities Database. Data entry will be performed according to the Data Management Plan established for this project. A flowchart that illustrates the general flow of events is presented in Figure 1.

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Attachment 1:

VBI70 Surface Soil Labels – Master Sheet

**VB170 Surface Soil Labels - Master Sheet**

Label #	Check-Out			Check-In			Voided?	Reason
	Sample Team ID	Date	Initials	Sample Team ID	Date	Initials		
3-00001								
3-00002								
3-00003								
3-00004								
3-00005								
3-00006								
3-00007								
3-00008								
3-00009								
3-00010								
3-00011								
3-00012								
3-00013								
3-00014								
3-00015								
3-00016								
3-00017								
3-00018								
3-00019								
3-00020								
3-00021								
3-00022								
3-00023								
3-00024								
3-00025								
3-00026								
3-00027								

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Attachment 2:

VBI70 Surface Soil Data Sheet

ATTACHMENT 1 SURFACE SOIL DATA SHEET



PHASE: 3
 MEDIUM: SURFACE SOIL
 SAMPLE COLLECTION METHOD: ISSI-VBI70-02 Revision 1
 DEPTH: 0-2"

DATE: _____

SAMPLE TEAM ID: _____

ADDRESS: _____
 House# Street Name

BUILDING TYPE: Residential - Single
 Multifamily
 Apartment

School (Name) - _____

Park (Name) - _____

CLASS: FS (Field Sample)

SAMPLE NO.:

SAMPLE TIME:

SAMPLE TYPE: (circle one)

First
Sample

--

COMP	GRAB
------	------

Second
Sample

--

COMP	GRAB
------	------

Third
Sample

--

COMP	GRAB
------	------

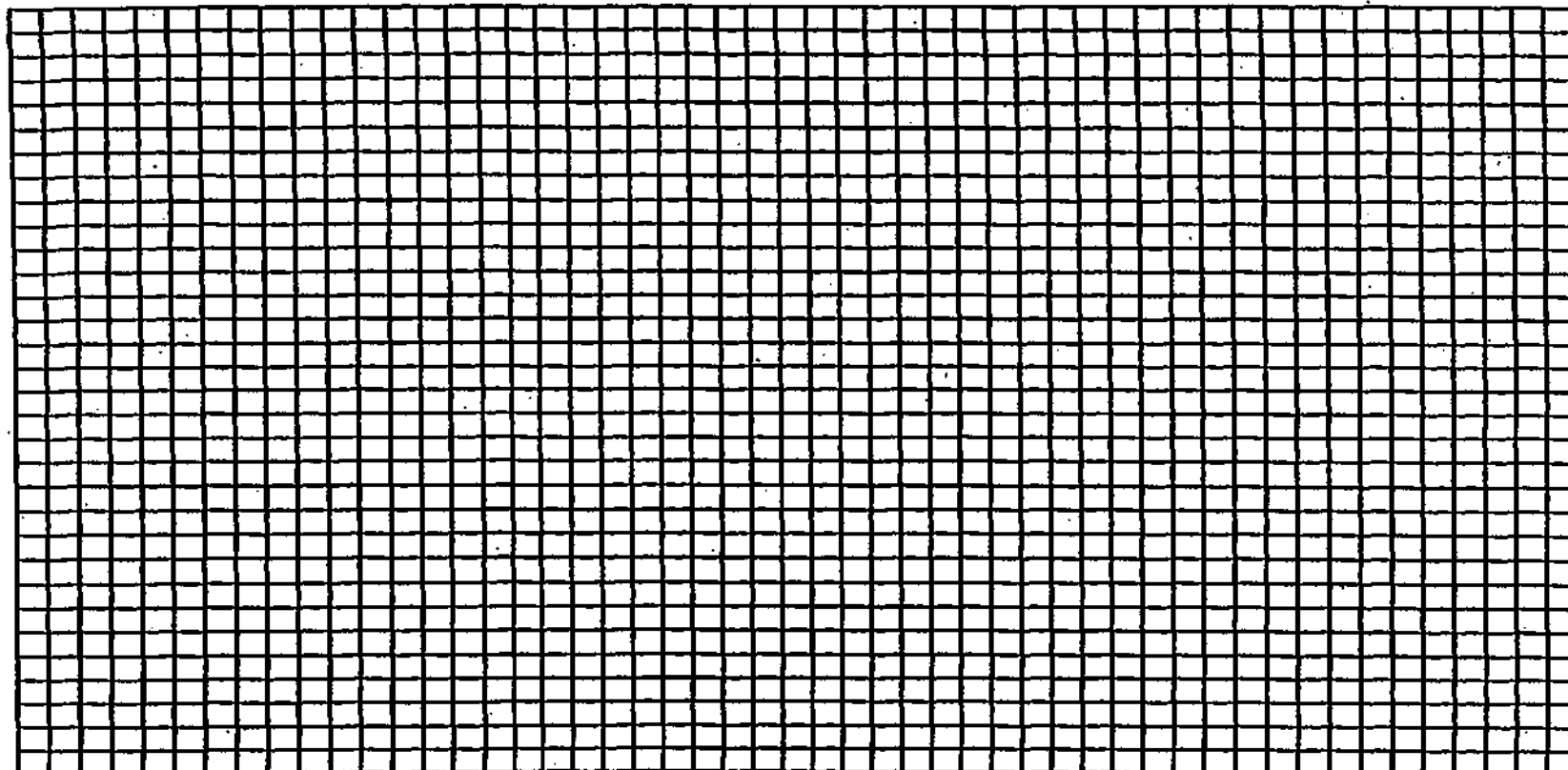
NOTES:

GARDEN PRESENT? _____ Yes
 IN USE? _____ Yes
 ADDRESS CONFIRMED BY RESIDENT? _____ Yes
 WILLING TO ALLOW FURTHER SAMPLING? _____ Yes

No
No
No
No

Field Diagram:

N



scale: 1 grid = 1 acre (~ 3 ft)

Sub Area

No. of Grids

Relative Dist. Between Samples (RDBS)

No. of Flags in Sub Area
No. of Grids divided by
the RDBS

No. of Each Flag
(10 of each)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

Total Grids:

Total Grids divided by 30 =

Total Flags:

Red _____

Blue _____

Yellow _____

Equal to 30? Y N

Sample Collected by: _____
Signature Date

Logbook Page Reviewed by: _____
Signature Date

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Figure 1:

Phase III Sample Flow Chart

PHASE 3 SAMPLE FLOW CHART

